

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Fourteenth Bristol Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Fourteenth Bristol Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.3% (336) reside in the Fourteenth Bristol Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (64) of Fourteenth Bristol Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 79.5% of admissions from the Fourteenth Bristol Representative District were male and 20.5% were female.
- Over 57.4% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 90.2% of admissions were white non-Latino, 2.9% were black non-Latino, 3.6% were Latino, 0.3% were Asians, and 2.9% were other racial categories.
- 52.7% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 23.8% were married, and 16.7% reported not to be married now.
- 22.3% of admissions had less than high school education, 49.4% completed high school, and 28.3% had more than high school education.
- 58.0% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 4.8% of those admitted were homeless.
- 6.3% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Fourteenth Bristol Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Fourteenth Bristol Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	350	325	90	64	32	28	21
FY '96	301	275	105	61	29	38	22
FY '97	361	319	112	72	30	40	25
FY '98	343	305	95	53	23	42	27
FY '99	349	308	106	54	21	32	24
FY '00	318	273	103	67	38	53	49
FY '01	336	303	103	63	22	50	35

- Since FY 1995, residents of Fourteenth Bristol Representative District reported an increase in heroin and marijuana use. Heroin use increased by 78% and marijuana use by 14%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting cocaine use remained steady, while alcohol and crack use decreased.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Fourteenth Bristol Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	72.3%	11.0%	7.4%	4.2%	2.1%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While heroin and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol, marijuana and cocaine was higher within your District.